

Evaluation Summary Analysis – Mott Hall Charter School

This form was compiled by OISM staff at the conclusion of the Prospectus review, Full Application review, and Capacity Interview. This Evaluation Summary Analysis summarizes the main steps in the review process as well as:

- 1) a discussion of the applicant’s alignment with priorities of the law (as measured by the prospectus)
- 2) a discussion of the applicant’s quality of design (as measured by the Full Application), and
- 3) a discussion of the capacity of the founding group (as measured by the Capacity Interview)

APPLICANT INFORMATION		
School Name:	Mott Hall Charter School	
	Year 1	Year 5
Grade Levels:	6 th grade	6 th through 8 th grade
Enrollment:	110	315
Mission:	“The mission of the proposed Mott Hall Charter School (MHCS) is to provide rigorous academics and strong supports to prepare students for success in high school, college and their future careers. We accomplish this through an interdisciplinary, liberal arts curriculum, employing a longer instructional day and year, implementing the International Baccalaureate program, AVID Advisory Program, Sanctuary culture model, technology infusion, an enriched arts program and service learning.”	
Leadership:	The proposed charter school’s leadership team will consist of a Principal, Director of Operations, and Social Worker.	
Governing Board:	The proposed charter school will be governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of five to eleven experienced members. The role of the proposed Mott Hall Charter School Board of Trustees is to ensure the school’s success by providing academic, operational, fiscal and legal oversight and support, holding the principal and school accountable for the achievement of its performance and outcome goals and overseeing the management support provided by the	

school's CMO, Replications, Inc. The Board will establish seven working committees: an Executive Committee, an Educational Accountability Committee, a Finance Committee, an Operations Committee, a Student Affairs Committee, a Nominating Committee, and a Grievance Committee.

The proposed governing board includes:

Patrick Owosogba – educator, founding principal Mott Hall Science and Technology High School

Rajeev Bajaj – founder and principal of K-12 education consulting firm

Brenda Bravo – proposed board President, retired high school principal and assistant superintendent

Sarah Calderon – arts educator

Xenia Cox – founder and principal of real estate and facilities planning consultant firm

Margo DelliCarpini – doctorate in Linguistics, teacher educator, TESOL

Peter Oroszlany – educator, high school principal

Ramon Namnum – educator, high school principal, Mott Hall V High School

Natalie Thompson – Vice President, Goldman, Sachs and Co.

Marco Carrion-

The proposed school founding members are:

David Tinagero, founding group member, proposed school leader and current principal of Mott Hall Bronx High School. Mr. Tinagero has experience in school start-up as well as in implementing school-wide programs such as International Baccalaureate and AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination).

Kathryn Malloy, founding group member, Assistant Principal at Mott Hall Bronx High School.

Bob Lesser, founding group member, Director of New School and Charter School Development at Replications, Inc, a nonprofit which has created more than thirty new schools over the past ten years. Mr. Lesser received his MA in public policy from Harvard university.

Syntosha Allen, founding group member, is the Director of Special Projects and Community Engagement at Replications, Inc and a NYC public middle school parent.

Joshua Morales, founding group member, served as Director of

Citywide Operations & Support Services for the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) Office of Charter Schools and has co-launched an emerging Charter Management Organization (CMO), provided advisory services to emerging charter school operators.

John Elwell, Ed.D., founding group member, is the Founder and President of Replications, Inc., a non-profit organization that has created more than thirty new schools over the past ten years and currently provides district level support to fourteen public schools in New York City.

Jeffrey Simes, founding group member, is a Partner at Goodwin Proctor, LLP where he has performed significant pro bono work in the area of education.

John Sullivan is the Vice President of School Support at Replications, Inc. and a former New York City English teacher, assistant principal, and the founding principal of Mott Hall High School.

PROSPECTUS ANALYSIS SUMMARY

Inadequate	Approaches	Meets	Exceeds
		X	

Analysis Summary
 The founding group appears to understand its educational, legal, and fiduciary obligations as required by the Charter Schools Act and other applicable statutes.

I. EDUCATION PLAN ANALYSIS SUMMARY

Inadequate	Approaches	Meets	Exceeds
			X

Analysis Summary

The founding group has clearly articulated the mission to provide rigorous academics and strong supports to prepare students for success in high school, college and their future careers. They plan to accomplish this through an interdisciplinary, liberal arts curriculum, employing a longer instructional day and year, implementing the International Baccalaureate Program, AVID Advisory Program, Sanctuary culture model, technology infusion, an enriched arts program, and service learning. At Mott Hall schools, all learning activities and assessments are based on New York State, Common Core and International Baccalaureate standards, which will be used to evaluate student performance. For students struggling in reading and writing, the proposed school will use Read 180, a research-based and field-tested intervention program.

The proposed school’s founding group believes that teachers must influence student achievement. The group plans to recruit and develop a hardworking and reflective faculty who are committed to urban school reform, and are capable of building a positive school culture, designing exceptional curriculum, and continuously improving student outcomes through team work.

The founding group has very high expectations of its teaching staff. MHCS seeks to create a professional learning environment in which teachers can work together, learn and be supported. Teachers are expected to fully participate in curriculum and assessment design. In addition, teachers will be supported in facilitating their own professional development. The framework for this professional development is based on the “California Standards for the Teaching Profession.”

As part of the application narrative and during the capacity interview, it was demonstrated that the proposed school founding group has reached out to the community. They shared anecdotal information that the community believes that there is a real need for the new high-quality middle school option and that stakeholders are most attracted to Mott Hall’s strong reputation, its focus on academic rigor, integrated technology, arts enrichment, and a range of after-school programs and supports available for students. Community outreach and support thus far includes the following:

- Bronx Community Board 2
- Bronx Community Board 4
- The Bronx Borough President’s Office
- State Assembly Member Marcos Crespo
- State Senator Jeff Klein
- Councilmember Helen Foster
- Councilmember James Vacca

II. ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN ANALYSIS SUMMARY

Inadequate	Approaches	Meets	Exceeds
			X

Analysis Summary

The founding group provided all required attachments, which included proposed by-laws and the code of ethics, prospective Board member resumes and questionnaires, an organizational chart with key positions, and identification of the roles and responsibilities for administering day to day activities.

The founding group has identified highly qualified candidates as founding members of the MHCS Board of Trustees. These candidates have undergone a vetting process, which includes numerous interviews and meetings with the proposed school leader and planning team members to learn more about the roles and responsibilities of the proposed MHCS trustees and to determine authentic mission alignment. In continuing recruitment efforts, the planning team seeks to recruit additional founding members, particularly those with backgrounds in instruction, educational accountability, and community engagement.

The MHCS founding team has experience in school start-up, charter operations, middle school instruction, administration, youth development, student support services, and community engagement. Founding team members have founded, led, taught in and provided numerous student supports in New York City Public Schools. Individuals from the planning team will comprise the school leadership team as well as the Replications school support team providing consistency and alignment necessary to launch a successful new school. The founding group appears to have the capacity to oversee the successful development and implementation of the education program presented in the application.

III. FINANCIAL PLAN ANALYSIS SUMMARY

Inadequate	Approaches	Meets	Exceeds
		X	

Analysis Summary

The founding group has articulated a budget that is well-aligned with its mission, educational program, and staffing plan. The revenue and expenditure assumptions were clear. The founding group presented several options to house the proposed charter school.

The founding group clearly understands their financial obligations and demonstrated the group's capacity to implement staffing and procedures to successfully operate and manage the proposed charter school. The groups has demonstrated its capacity to meet insurance, food service requirements, key financial obligations and reporting requirements.

CAPACITY INTERVIEW ANALYSIS SUMMARY

Inadequate	Approaches	Meets	Exceeds
		X	

The founding group responded competently and sufficiently to both general questions posed by the Assistant Commissioner and to specific questions posed by the reviewers.

Additionally, the group articulated its understanding of what it means to hold a charter from the Board of Regents and the responsibilities the charter school would have under the law. The group spoke to its educational plan---goals, staffing pattern, curriculum, professional development for teachers, special student population, accountability and the education of special needs and English Language Learners. The group also spoke to the use of data to inform teaching and learning as well as the decision-making process of the school. Specifically, the group has within its vision and at every level a continuous cycle of data collection, data analysis, and decision-making.

COMPREHENSIVE SUMMARY

Inadequate	Approaches	Meets	Exceeds
			X

Analysis Summary

The founding group was persuasive on paper and in person of the need for a charter school within their community and of their ability to implement the kind of charter school they envision for their community. There are no material concerns remaining that cannot be fully addressed during the pre-opening phase should this application proceed.